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JPRS L/10259

18 January 1982

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 3/82)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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WORLDWIDE REPORT
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CONTENTS

ASIA

THAILAND

Gen Prachuap Orders Ban on Chemicals to North (SIAM RAT, 11 Aug 81).....	1
United States Said to Pressure Thailand on Narcotics (BAN MUANG, 17, 18 Sep 81).....	2
ONCB Chief: Narcotics Violators' Property To Be Seized (BAN MUANG, 2 Aug 81).....	7
Cooperation With Burma Sought in Capture of Khun Sa (SIAM RAT, 18 Aug 81).....	9
Burma-Thai Trafficking Ring Broken in Chiang Rai (DAO SIAM, 17 Aug 81).....	10
KMT 93rd Division Trafficking Role, Links With Kriangsak Reported (Prachuap; SIAM RAT, 20 Aug 81).....	11
Rewards Offered for Drug Kingpins (MATICHON, 21 Aug 81).....	15
Lao Arrested With Opium in Nakhon Phanom (DAO SIAM, 1 Oct 81).....	16
Drug Trafficking Problem on Southern Border Discussed (Pan Bandua; SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN, 20 Sep 81).....	17

- a -

[III - WW - 138 FOUO]

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CANADA

Survey Finds Use of LSD Soars in Ontario Schools (Dorothy Lipovenko; THE GLOBE AND MAIL, 9 Dec 81).....	19
Most Provinces Oppose Softening of Drug Laws (THE GLOBE AND MAIL, 9 Dec 81).....	20
Drug Seizure Called Largest in Windsor (THE WINDSOR STAR, 24 Nov 81).....	21
Briefs	
Drugs Seized in Police Raids	22
Major Drug Raid	22

LATIN AMERICA

COLOMBIA

Briefs	
Cocaine Laboratory Discovered	23
Drug Confiscation	23
Drug Trafficker's Arrest	23

PERU

Briefs	
Cocaine Base Seizure	24
Drug Trafficker Band Dismantled	24
Cocaine Dispatched by Mail	24

VENEZUELA

Briefs	
Cocaine Arrest	25

WEST EUROPE

DENMARK

Norway, Sweden Demand Denmark Tighten Drug Control (Jorn Brandt; BERLINGSKE TIDENDE, 8 Nov 81).....	26
Pressure From Norway, Sweden May Force Stronger Drug Law (DAGENS NYHETER, 6 Dec 81).....	29

- b -

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FINLAND

Domestic Drug Problem Compared to Other Nordic Countries (Irma Stenback; HELSINGIN SANOMAT, 17 Nov 81).....	30
New Prescription Law To Control Narcotics in Effect (Jaakko Lehtinen; UUSI SUOMI, 17 Nov 81).....	38

FRANCE

Briefs	
Drug Seizure	41

NETHERLANDS

Methadone Distribution in Amsterdam Viewed (Lotta Schullerqvist; DAGENS NYHETER, 4 Dec 81).....	42
--	----

NORWAY

Customs Service Reports Big Increase in Drug Seizures (Jarit Jahreie; ARBEIDERBLADET, 21 Nov 81).....	45
Storting Approves Measures To Combat Narcotics (AFTENPOSTEN, 24 Nov 81).....	47
Three Arrested in Hashish Smuggling Case (AFTENPOSTEN, 26 Nov 81).....	48

SWEDEN

Customs Administration Wants Computers for Drugs Control (Sune Olofson; SVENSKA DAGBLADET, 30 Nov 81).....	50
Successful Police Offensive Against Pushers To Continue (Per-Erik Lagerqvist; SVENSKA DAGBLADET, 4 Dec 81).....	52
International Gang Broken; Smuggled Heroin, Hashish (Leif Dahlin; DAGENS NYHETER, 8 Dec 81).....	54
Thirteen Indians Accused of Smuggling Hashish (DAGENS NYHETER, 4 Dec 81).....	58
Methadone Test Likely To Continue Another Three Years (Lotta Schullerqvist; DAGENS NYHETER, 11 Dec 81).....	59
Briefs	
Prison Drug Raid	61

UNITED KINGDOM

Briefs	
Record Heroin Haul	62

- c -

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THAILAND

GEN PRACHUAP ORDERS BAN ON CHEMICALS TO NORTH

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 11 Aug 81 p 5

[Article: "Prachuap Orders Strict Ban On Sending Chemicals Used to Produce Heroin to the North"]

[Text] Prachuap has ordered that the smuggling of chemicals used in producing heroin to the north resolutely be prevented. He pointed out that this measure will reduce the amount of heroin.

Police Major General Phao Sarasin, the secretary-general of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board, has revealed that General Prachuap Suntharangkun, the deputy prime minister, has, in his capacity as president of the Narcotics Control Board, ordered that particularly strict measures be taken to prevent drugs used to produce heroin, such as acetic anhydride, from being sent to the northern provinces, where they can be smuggled to places that produce heroin. He has also asked for cooperation from the governors of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai provinces and asked that they implement measures to intercept such chemicals. It may be necessary to set up checkpoints to keep chemicals from entering these two provinces. If these measures succeed, this will stop the production of heroin.

The secretary-general of the ONCB stated that, concerning this problem of chemicals that are used to produce heroin, in addition to preventing the smuggling or sending [of chemicals] to the north to produce heroin, we will cooperate with Malaysia in suppression activities because, in reality, these chemicals are brought in across the Thai-Malaysian border. This resulted from discussions between the two countries. At present, Malaysia does not have a control law on chemicals used to produce heroin but they are considering making such a control law. Thus, it is hoped that when Malaysia has a control law on chemicals like we do, control activities will achieve better results.

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THAILAND

UNITED STATES SAID TO PRESSURE THAILAND ON NARCOTICS

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 17, 18 Sep 81

[Ta Mo Lo Column: "Opium Suppression Operations -- Never Ending Operations"]

[17 Sep 81, p 5]

[Text] There have been reports that the United States is putting great pressure on Thailand concerning the narcotics problem, especially in the notorious Golden Triangle area.

Thailand must achieve some visible results in return for the 161 million baht that the United States has provided to help suppress narcotics.

The United States wants Thailand to go in and clear the Golden Triangle area by completely destroying all the poppy fields since, this year, opium production in the Golden Triangle will increase. It is estimated that the yield will reach 600 tons this year and, most certainly, most of this will end up in the United States.

The United States wants to prevent this at all costs and so it has been willing to give 161 million baht to induce Thailand to intercept the drugs and not allow them to leave the Golden Triangle.

The United States feels that 161 million baht is a large sum of money. But at most it can be used to destroy 1,610 rai of poppy. And this still leaves tens of thousands of rai that can [produce opium] for shipment to the United States. And there are also the Golden Triangle areas in Burma and Laos.

International police from the United States who take helicopters to survey the Golden Triangle area see only beautiful forests and mountains below without realizing what complex conditions exist underneath this beautiful scenery. They think that Thai police can easily go in with flame throwers and burn the poppy in the fields. But things are not that easy.

The Golden Triangle is the capital of an international drug empire. It is in an area where the borders of three countries meet, the three being Thailand, Burma and Laos. The people who live in the area of the Golden Triangle where Thailand, Burma and Laos come together are stateless people belonging to various hill tribes who have made a living growing poppy for a hundred years (beginning when England started the Opium War with China). They are allies of the Karens, Shans and other small tribal groups that have risen up to win independence from the Burmese government. They support the underground Free Laos movement, or Lao National Liberation Movement, which is opposing the Lao government. And they support the armed Ho Chinese who escort caravans and who are former soldiers of the displaced 93rd KMT Division.

Concerning these armed groups that roam about the Golden Triangle and whose main income comes from drug trafficking and the drug industry, none of the three governments has been able to bring these illegal groups, whose members number 1 million people, under full control. At most, they have been put under very loose control. Concerning the Karen and Shan independence movements in particular, the Burmese government has been trying to suppress these movements but there is as yet no sign that it will succeed in the near future. Whenever a government carries on suppression activities within its own country, these groups simply flee to another country temporarily and this happens again and again.

Thus, using the power of the state to suppress and destroy [these groups] cannot succeed. If they are to be suppressed, all three countries must carry on suppression activities together. But many political and other problems will be encountered.

Without offense to these governments, not one of these governments has complete sovereignty in [its part of] the Golden Triangle. It is true that the governments can go in but they must take in troops (if the intent is to destroy the opium). And the opium in the Golden Triangle is like water. For example, if the Thai government completely destroys the opium in Thailand's part of the Golden Triangle, the opium in Laos and Burma flows in to replace it.

Thailand is a major source of opium and narcotics because, in the sphere of communications, Thailand is more developed than either Burma or Laos, and, therefore, the opium and narcotics flow into Thailand from Burma and Laos, with Thailand serving as the gateway to the world outside.

For this reason, Thailand has been condemned by the United Nations over the matter of narcotics and it will not provide help since Thailand is more developed than Laos or Burma. Drug suppression in the Golden Triangle, the capital of the world drug empire, is a task of the United Nations but the United Nations does not take its responsibilities seriously at all.

Thus, the suppression activities have achieved nothing. Thailand is like a person who is reaping the effects of his misdeeds. It has to carry the world alone and this is not fair.

Drugs in the Golden Triangle cannot be suppressed using force; there is no possibility of this succeeding. With the 161 million baht of the United States, about 1610 rai of poppy can be destroyed. And this still leaves tens of thousands of rai. It will be like burning grass, that is, after it rains, the plants will come up again and will be even more beautiful than before. Suppressing drugs in the Golden Triangle using peaceful means in accord with the ideas and initiatives of the king looks as if it is the correct way and the one that will achieve permanent results. This way involves persuading the stubborn hill tribes to abandon poppy cultivation and cultivate other crops instead.

Thailand is a poor country and so it must proceed slowly. The United Nations and certain individual countries including the United States have failed to give Thailand great help.

Thailand is carrying the burden alone (why must it do so?). The major problem is that the American drug market has raised prices without limit, and those hill tribes that once stopped growing poppy have started growing poppy again.

And a problem that is twice as great is that those hill tribes that were once content with their opium and small huts now have a much broader knowledge of the world. Each family now wants a house with a tile roof, a color television and a pickup truck. And so they must turn to growing poppy.

Those officials who make plans for the hill tribes have a headache.

[18 Sep 81, p 5]

[Text] Concerning the matter of the United States pressuring Thailand to quickly suppress opium, I wrote about this yesterday but there is still more to say.

Thailand has been a good "child" of the United Nations and suppressed drugs in accord with the policies of the United Nations. But Thailand has received very little from the United Nations in return. True, the United Nations has given help but this help can be compared to throwing three or four rocks into a chasm.

The drug problem in the Golden Triangle area is like a deep chasm than cannot be filled with just two or three rocks. The drug problem is an international problem, and it is not fair to throw

the responsibility for this on Thailand's shoulders alone. Turkey, which produces an amount of opium second only to that of the Golden Triangle, produces opium openly without fear of anyone and with no trouble.

My goodness, I would like the government to engage in this trade just like Turkey does. Only then will the United Nations wake up.

Because of the political geography, the United Nations cannot exert influence over Burma or Laos, which are jointly responsible, along with Thailand, in the Golden Triangle area because in the Golden Triangle, there are national liberation movements that are fighting the two governments.

It is these national liberation movements that receive their main income from the opium trade, an income that is used for national liberation. These various national liberation groups will fight for the Golden Triangle like a king cobra fights for its eggs.

The eradication of drugs in the Golden Triangle can be done through Thailand but the United Nations must provide large amounts of aid. This aid must not be like setting up a laboratory in order to write a thesis.

The idea of invading the area and destroying the poppies, an idea held by some foreigners, is foolish. Bloodthirsty groups will rise up to fight and this will turn into a political problem. This is not a matter of 10 to 20 rai of marijuana in the northeast or near Kanchanaburi which can be destroyed easily since everyone involved is Thai.

Go ahead and burn it. After it is burned, it can be replanted. A lasting solution to the problem is to use a soft stick for persuasion and to provide help so that the poppy growers turn to the cultivation of other crops.

Thailand has persevered [in its efforts] for more than 10 years and has achieved some results. But because large sums of money must be spent, it has been possible to carry out things in a limited area only.

But after a single event in the United States, the results of the past 10 years have been almost entirely ruined. Because the United States is a wealthy country, people have greatly increased the price of drugs. The hill tribes who had given up growing poppy have again started growing poppy because they receive a good price.

America has inflicted real pain. To solve the immediate problems, a bonus will have to be paid to the hill tribesmen who grow

substitute crops [in accord with] the program and recommendations of the officials so that they have an income at least equal to that earned by growing poppy.

The United Nations must be the one to pay this bonus since the Thai government does not have the means to distribute money like that. If the United Nations turns its face and does not help, no one else will. [This] must be left to fate.

It is time that the United Nations called on all member nations to help solve this problem instead of letting Thailand shoulder this alone. In particular, the United States, which has the largest narcotics market in the world, must take responsibility too and not shift the responsibility to Thailand.

The Thai government should not be like a person with a venereal disease who is embarrassed in front of the doctor. The government must pressure the United Nations like a bull dog, that is, bite and not let go. It must pressure the United Nations to become directly involved in solving this problem. It must play an active role in the program to reduce area used to grow poppy in the Golden Triangle and surrounding areas. It must not act like an invited guest.

However, the problem that is presently causing headaches for Thai officials is that our hill tribes are no longer content with their thatched huts. They want wooden houses with tile roofs just like in the city. And they want a pickup truck under the house instead of pigs. They also want a color television.

But growing other crops does not help to obtain a house and pickup as fast as they can be obtained by growing poppy. What is to be done? I interviewed a reporter about his views:

"Take a small nuclear bomb and drop it in the middle of the Golden Triangle. This will close the area for 20 years and solve the problems." Satisfied?

11943

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THAILAND

ONCB CHIEF: NARCOTICS VIOLATORS' PROPERTY TO BE SEIZED

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 2 Aug 81 p 16

[Article: "There Will Be a Law On Seizing the Property of Narcotics Traffickers"]

[Text] Yesterday (the 1st), Police Major General Phao Sarasin, the Secretary-general of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board, revealed that discussions are being held on making a national security law similar to those of Malaysia and Singapore in order to use it as a tool in drug suppression so that better results are achieved. At the same time, a law on seizing the property of drug dealers similar to those in the United States and Australia is also needed.

Police General Phao stated that, concerning the suppression of narcotics dealers in Thailand, at the present time there are still several problems and obstacles because usually it is not possible to arrest the ringleaders and prosecute the case, which is a matter of evidence. But in Malaysia and Singapore, they have been able to arrest even the ringleaders since they have a national security law. This law permits the arrest of people if it is felt that these people are a danger to the country. Malaysia in particular believes that drugs are the number one enemy and that they are a greater danger than the communists. It also feels that the drug dealers are a danger to the country. Thus, Malaysia is using this law to arrest people and jail them for 2 years. Because Malaysia has a national security law, drug suppression has achieved better results, and it has been possible to eliminate the entire network of drug traffickers, even the ringleaders. Thus, if we have such a law, this will be good for the suppression of the drug dealers.

Police Major General Phao further stated that, in addition to this, in Australia there is a law on seizing the property of drug dealers since it is felt that such property was acquired illegally. When a drug dealer is arrested, his property is inspected to determine how much he has and he must state, within 1 month, how

he acquired that property. If he cannot do so, officials seize this property. The United States has a similar law. The property that is seized is used in drug suppression work. During just the first 6 months after this law went into effect, U.S. officials were able to seize property from drug dealers valued at \$100 million. Thus, if we have a law similar to those of the United States and Australia, this will similarly help us achieve better results in our suppression work. At present, the Office of the Narcotics Control Board is studying the laws of these countries to see how suitable they are for us.

Police Major General Phao Sarasin stated in conclusion that we have a control law concerning some types of chemicals that are an important element in the production of heroin, and Malaysia is interested in having a similar law because most of the chemicals that the heroin producers use come from Malaysia. This is because Malaysia does not have a control law. Thus, it is hoped that when Malaysia makes such a law, this will help make it possible to achieve better results in controlling chemicals used in heroin production than are being achieved at present.

11943

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THAILAND

COOPERATION WITH BURMA SOUGHT IN CAPTURE OF KHUN SA

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 18 Aug 81 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Prachuap Discloses That the Reward for the Capture of 'Khun Sa' Will Be Increased"]

[Text] General Prachuap Suntharangkun, the deputy prime minister, has revealed that, at present, Thailand is cooperating with Burma to capture "Khun Sa" in order to resolutely put an end to the drug trade since it is believed that he is the person responsible for the widespread drug trade.

The deputy prime minister stated that while the two sides have not yet been able to capture him, they will try to block things in order to make things difficult for the drug trade. And it is expected that, in the new fiscal year that begins this October, officials will be able to increase the reward offered for his arrest.

General Prachuap also stated that he has sent a letter of commendation to the Region 3 border patrol police, who seized the largest amount of opium -- 3 tons. He also affirmed that there are definitely no narcotics refineries in Thailand. If any are found, they will be seized immediately. Most of these refineries are located in Burma in the Golden Triangle area, where Thailand, Laos and Burma meet, since this area produces much opium. It is estimated that 500 tons were produced here last year while only 30-50 tons was produced in Thailand.

11943

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THAILAND

BURMA-THAI TRAFFICKING RING BROKEN IN CHIANG RAI

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 17 Aug 81 pp 7, 12

[Article: "Burmese Heroin Transported Into Thailand; Police Intercept It"]

[Text] From an investigation made by Police Lieutenant Colonel Chan Suwannaphap, the chief inspector at the Chiang Rai provincial police station in Muang District, it was learned that heroin was to be smuggled into Thailand from Burma by motorcycle. Thus, Police Lt Col Chan Suwannaphap joined the police officials stationed at the Mae Kok vehicle checkpoint. Police Warrant Officer Subin Suthiprida, the officer in charge, and several other policemen, searched the vehicles, especially the motorcycles, coming from Mae Sai District in accord with what an informer had told Police Lt Col Chan, the informer having said that heroin would be transported into the city.

At approximately 1430 hours, two men on a Suzuki 100 cc motorcycle drove up from the direction of Mae Sai District, just as the informer had said. The police immediately asked to search the raincoat that was tied to the gas tank in the front. They found 350 grams of Singto Khu Yiep Lok brand heroin hidden in the raincoat. They confiscated this as evidence and arrested both men as suspects. They were later identified as Mr Somchai Saengchan, age 24, and Mr Prasit Khamluwong, age 24, both residents of Village 1 in Pongpha Commune, Mae Sai District, Chiang Rai Province.

Both men stated that they had been paid 5,000 baht by a man in Thakhilek District in Burma to deliver it to a wealthy person in front of the Chiang Rai Rama 2 theater. The value of the heroin that they had been hired to transport was approximately 150,000 baht in Burma. The officials sent some of their men to go arrest the wealthy person who was supposed to pick up the goods, but he did not appear. He may have found out about things and fled ahead of time. The two suspects and the evidence were turned over to Police Lieutenant Bangkhom Sittisan, the officer on duty, for further investigation of the case.

11943

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THAILAND

KMT 93RD DIVISION TRAFFICKING ROLE, LINKS WITH KRIANGSAK REPORTED

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 20 Aug 81 p 7

[Thoughts From the News column by Prachuap: "The Heroin Refinery At Doi Huai Mak"]

[Text] Recently, there was a news report that Region 3 border patrol police had seized a heroin refinery at Doi Huai Mak, which is located about 10 kilometers to the west of Hin Taek Village -- a Shan village in Mae Chan District, Chiang Rai Province -- and about 1 kilometer from the Thai-Burmese border.

The BANGKOK POST, which printed this story, revealed that this refinery was capable of producing about 400 kilograms of heroin a month. By seizing this refinery, in addition to seizing the production equipment and various chemicals, 3 tons of cooked opium, which was being readied to produce heroin, was also seized. Thus it can be said that this was the largest drug haul in the past 10 years.

Because this heroin refinery was set up in a favorable location, or in a place that was difficult to control, and because it was guarded by Chinese soldiers of the 93rd Division, or Ho Chinese as they are called, who were armed with modern weapons such as M72 [grenade launchers], antitank rockets and M60 machine guns, the border patrol police had to send in forces by helicopter. But it appears that there was heavy resistance by the Chinese soldiers of the 93rd Division before they finally had to retreat.

Concerning the news of this **suppression** activity, or drug haul, in reality this is a common event and not something strange. But concerning the seizure of this heroin refinery, besides the fact that this was the largest case in 10 years, there are other things that I think are worth noting. One is that Chinese soldiers of the 93rd Division were involved as guards for this drug production operation. Prior to this, some newspapers printed stories saying that a group of Chinese soldiers of the 93rd Division had moved

from the north to mountain ridges along the Thai-Burmese border that are about 4 kilometers from Sangkhlaburi District in Kanchanaburi Province. These stories said that these forces of the 93rd Division had joined Burmese minority groups and that it was expected that a new narcotics trade route would be opened by an international narcotics ring.

In fact, the matter of these remnant Chinese forces of the 93rd Division who remained in the Thai-Burmese border area is a problem that has troubled the government for a long time. In particular, the Chinese soldiers of the 3rd and 5th battalions of the 93rd Division who were unwilling to be repatriated to Taiwan and who did not want to fight the military forces of the Burmese government moved into the northern region of Thailand. The 3rd Battalion chose to locate in the Doi Ma Angkhang area in Fang District, Chiang Mai Province. As for the 5th Battalion, it chose to settle in the area of Ban Pa Sang in Mae Chan District, Chiang Rai Province. Later, it moved into the Doi Mae Salong area in Mae Chan District, Chiang Rai Province, remaining there up to the present.

Concerning the matter of the 3rd and 5th battalions of the Chinese 93rd Division settling down in Thailand, besides the fact that this infringed on Thailand's sovereignty, it also caused several other serious problems. For example, weapons and forces have been secretly moved in and out of the country across the border, and young Chinese men in Burma have been sought for training so that they can be stationed with various units. People have been smuggled out of the country to Taiwan and also into the country from Taiwan.

The important problem is that when the Chinese soldiers of the 93rd Division refused to return to Taiwan, Taiwan stopped providing financial help and this forced this group to look for money with which to support its people and military forces. Their livelihood became the opium trade. They transported opium from Kokong State and sold it in Thailand and Laos. They also established illegal checkpoints and collected taxes from the opium traffickers and from those dealing in other smuggled goods. It once reached the point where they had a dispute with the independent Karens over proprietary rights to jade goods and an important Thai general, who has left government service and who is now a successful politician, had to go and make peace between them. But whether or not he received any compensation for this was not revealed.

In the end, to solve the problems concerning the 3rd and 5th battalions of the 93rd Division, in that period Supreme Command Headquarters and the cabinet gave permission, with the approval of the National Security Council, for the KMT soldiers of the 3rd and 5th battalions and their families to live in Thailand as

refugees in those areas where they had been living, with one force sent to live in the Doi Luang and Doi Phamon areas in Chiang Rai Province. And they were permitted to make a living in those areas stipulated by government officials. They were considered to be ordinary people and not soldiers. In particular, the settlement at Doi Salong was the largest. There, the Chinese soldiers and their families numbered almost 3,000 people. They had schools to teach both Thai and Chinese. Their open means of making a living was agriculture, which included growing tea and cold-weather fruits since Doi Mae Salong, which the Chinese soldiers of the 93rd Division had taken over, is more than 3,000 feet above sea level and the weather there is cold all year long.

The important person who is the present leader of the Chinese soldiers and their families on Doi Mae Salong is Mr Li Yui Chien. I cannot remember his Thai name. Most of the children of the Chinese soldiers on Doi Mae Salong have Thai names and study from Thai books. The Chinese soldiers who are still young have taken part in fighting and suppressing the communist terrorists. That was the policy implemented by Supreme Command Headquarters in that period. Based on what has been revealed, it appears that many of them lost their lives. It was apparently for this reason that Supreme Command Headquarters established Headquarters 04 in Chiang Mai Province and made it responsible for handling communications with the Chinese soldiers of the 93rd Division, which had established its base in Thailand. And it is thought that in return, the Chinese soldiers took part in suppressing the terrorists. Therefore, they were probably given special rights in return.

The thing that they were given in return was the right to carry on their original way of making a living, which combined the production and sale of narcotics. Because, if engaged in agriculture alone to make a living, where could they have gotten the money to support their military forces? There was once a news item that said that a Thai general was living with the Chinese soldiers of the 93rd Division and that these forces were engaged in producing narcotics to the extent that drugs were sent to and sold in Vietnam during the period when the United States was still there. This resulted in U.S. soldiers becoming addicts and drug traffickers too.

Thus, when this major heroin refinery at Doi Huai Mak, which is located between Doi Hin Taek and Doi Mae Salong, was seized and it was found that heavily armed Chinese soldiers of the 93rd Division were standing guard and that they fought to prevent the authorities from seizing [the refinery], this affirms or supports the idea that the 93rd Division, which is still in Thailand, has certainly not given up or ceased producing and selling narcotics. Furthermore, it is believed that a high-ranking official, or

general, may be involved in these activities. And if this occurs at times, the border patrol police who go in to make the arrests may be blamed rather than praised.

Those people who say that there is a special relationship with the Chinese soldiers of the 93rd Division at Doi Mae Salong have to be referring to General Kriangsak Chamanan, the former prime minister and the new MP from Roi Et Province, since he worked at Supreme Command Headquarters for a long time. And when he was prime minister, he went and stayed at Doi Salong so often that the Chinese soldiers who lived there happily built a magnificent guest house called Kriangsak's house. There is a sign there in Chinese which in translation says that this house was built for General Kriangsak Chamanan, the prime minister, a person who has implemented wise policies and kindly allowed these Chinese soldiers to live on Doi Mae Salong with the status of refugees.

Concerning the guest house on Doi Mae Salong that the Chinese soldiers built for General Kriangsak Chamanan during the time he was prime minister, I don't know whether this house was built for the personal use of General Kriangsak because of close personal relations between them or whether it was built in commendation of his capabilities, that is, it was turned over to the government and became government property. If it was built for [the person holding] this government position, I approve since this shows that this is public property. But if it was built for his personal use, even if was built out of great admiration, since he was holding a political position, the prime ministership, I feel that accepting this house that others had built for his personal use was wrong since some people may misunderstand and think that this was a reward or repayment for something.

Since government officials seized this major heroin refinery and it appears that Chinese soldiers of the 93rd Division were involved and even resisted the seizure, I would like to see the government conduct an investigation to clearly determine whose refinery this was, who was involved and whether there are other such refineries. Because if an investigation is not conducted in order to clear up matters, I am very afraid that, one day, money from this drug trade may play a part in politics or elections in Thailand. Who knows?

11943

CSO: 5300/4514

THAILAND

REWARDS OFFERED FOR DRUG KINGPINS

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 21 Aug 81 p 3

[Article: "A Reward Has Been Offered for the Capture of the Drug Kingpin Who Has Great Influence in the North"]

[Text] The Office of the Narcotics Control Board is preparing to offer a reward of at least 100,000 baht for the capture of Police Colonel Niran Withayawutikun, a narcotics kingpin in the north.

On 19 August, a news report from the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) revealed to MATICHON that the ONCB is considering setting a reward for the capture of Police Colonel Niran Withayawutikun, the commander of the [local office] of the Commissioner's Office of the Provincial 3. From an investigation, it was learned that he is involved in the drug trade in the north. Now, he has fled.

"The latest news that we have received is that he is with the 93rd Division at Doi Mae Salong, with Khun Sa or at Doi Lang, where Lao Su has influence," stated the news source.

The news report added that the amount of the reward will be between 100,000 and 500,000 baht. The ONCB will submit this matter to the committee for consideration one more time. This amount can be compared to the rewards offered for other narcotics traffickers, which include Lao Su, 900,000 baht, Li Ming, 600,000 baht, Mr Phunsiri Chanyasak, 600,000 baht and Khun Sa, 500,000 baht.

The news report revealed that in setting this reward for Khun Sa, or Chang Si Fu, an international narcotics trafficker, General Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister, showed great interest and resolutely ordered that he be captured. In addition, charges will be filed that he has harmed national security.

11943

CS0: 5300/4514

THAILAND

LAO ARRESTED WITH OPIUM IN NAKHON PHANOM

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 1 Oct 81 p 16

[Article: "Young Lao Man Who Transported Opium Across the Mekong River to Sell In Thailand Is Arrested By Police"]

[Text] From an investigation by Police Lieutenant Chirat Phichitphai, the head of the special investigation unit at the Nakhon Phanom provincial police station in Muang District, it was learned that opium was to be transported across the border from Laos at Tha Kho in Tha Kho Commune, Muang District, Nakhon Phanom Province. Thus, at 2200 hours on 29 September, officials took a force and hid in the area of the government pawn shop along the bank of the Mekong River on Suntharawichit Road in Muang District. A man carrying a paper bag walked past and since he looked suspicious he was searched.

In the paper bag, officials found two plastic bags of cooked opium, each weighing 1 kilogram. Police Lieutenant Chirat put this man on the back of his motorcycle in order to take him to the provincial police station in Muang District. But after going about 400 meters from the place where he was arrested, this man used his chance to shove Police Lt Chirat off the motorcycle and fled with his handcuffs still on. But officials fired a warning shot into the air, gave chase and arrested him. They then took him and turned him over to Police Captain Wiraphong Somprasong, the officer on duty, for investigation. He was identified as Mr Somsanuk Anurak, age 25, who lives in Tha Khaek in Kham Muan Province, Laos. Mr Somsanuk confessed that he was taking this cooked opium to a trafficker in Nakhon Phanom city. This was just a sample and if they had reached an agreement, he would have brought in at least 300 more kilograms. But before this happened, he was arrested. The officials placed him under arrest for further handling of the case.

11943

CSO: 5300/4526

THAILAND

DRUG TRAFFICKING PROBLEM ON SOUTHERN BORDER DISCUSSED

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN in Thai 20 Sep 81 p 43

[Comment Field column by Pan Bandua: "Drug Trafficking in the Southern Provinces"]

[Text] Based on a statement by Police Major General Phao Sarasin, the secretary-general of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB), concerning drug trafficking in Thailand in particular, at present, much drug smuggling is taking place in the south and officials have been able to arrest many of these criminals.

The thing worth noting is that, concerning drug trafficking in the south, based on the arrests that have been made, almost all of the drugs seized have been bars of morphine. Thus, we can assume that there is certainly a heroin refinery in the south or on the border with Malaysia. If this assumption is true, the government must take action to resolutely suppress this. The facts that support this assumption include the following:

Thailand has resolutely prohibited acetic acid from being brought into the country since this is an important acid that has long been used in the refining of heroin. Also, stern action has been taken against those who violate the law, and there have been no exceptions in the southern provinces.

But at the same time, Malaysia does not have any prohibitions concerning such chemicals. Thus, drug traffickers who establish heroin refineries in Malaysia can easily obtain this important acid. Or, it is also easy to smuggle this drug across the border into the southern region of Thailand. Thus, it is urgent that these two countries cooperate in suppressing the heroin refineries.

At present, in the Thai-Malaysia border area, where there are other problems that have constantly had an effect, the problems have begun to be solved because of having mutual understanding. In particular, the Malaysian prime minister made an official visit to

Thailand and the Thai prime minister has visited Malaysia and this has greatly improved relations between the two countries.

The narcotics problem that has arisen at present should not be too difficult to solve if the two sides really cooperate with each other. As for Thailand, this country is notorious for the drug problems here, and, therefore, steps must quickly be taken to solve them.

One thing that should be done is to improve the efficiency of the officials. Also, a good suppression measure is to investigate and prosecute the cases of those who violate the law. The only thing is that swift action is necessary.

As for the actions of the present government, it is believed that this government is honest and that it has certainly intended to suppress drug trafficking in the country as much as possible, even to the point of putting a deputy prime minister in direct charge of this matter. If the sectors concerned cooperate fully, the drug problems in the country will certainly decrease.

Drugs are one of the great threats to mankind. But they create great wealth for selfish people, and they are like a weapon used for political persecution. This is something that all countries must make every effort possible to suppress for the future well-being of society.

11943

CSO: 5300/4526

CANADA

SURVEY FINDS USE OF LSD SOARS IN ONTARIO SCHOOLS

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 9 Dec 81 p 1

[Article by Dorothy Lipovenko]

[Text]

The use of LSD among Ontario high school students has risen 67 per cent since 1977 and the use of "uppers" has increased about the same, according to a survey by the Addiction Research Foundation.

However, slightly fewer students are smoking marijuana, the province-wide bi-annual survey indicates. It is the first time since the ARF initiated the high schools study in 1968 that there has been no reported increase in marijuana use.

Short-term effects of LSD use include mood changes, impaired motor skills, trembling and a distorted sense of time. Convulsions, insomnia and prolonged depression are effects associated with long-term use. Uppers, which produce a feeling of euphoria, include amphetamines and benzedrine. Effects from their use include dizziness, sweating, appetite reduction and a rise in blood pressure.

Commenting on the reduction in marijuana use, the report, to be released today, says, "... whether this is due to improved education about adverse effects of cannabis (marijuana), economic factors, or more general socio-cultural changes, cannot be determined. . ."

The 3,270 students surveyed were in Grades 7, 9, 11 and 13 in public and separate schools. While alcohol is their most popular drug and its consumption has remained steady between survey years, tobacco is the most frequently consumed drug. About 72 per cent of the tobacco smokers used tobacco daily.

About one-third of the students used marijuana and tobacco respectively. But 10 per cent of the marijuana smokers reported using the drug 20 or more times in the month prior to the survey. Only 1 per cent of alcohol users said they had drunk alcohol daily during that same period.

Among students reporting use of drugs at least once in the year before the survey was taken, greater use was found among students in the western region surveyed compared with those in Metro Toronto. (This has consistently been the case in all of the surveys since they began.) The western region included the area from Brampton to Windsor and from Owen Sound to Niagara Falls. Marijuana use was twice as much; LSD, two-and-a-half times; speed, three times; non-prescription stimulants, four times; and non-prescription barbiturates, two-and-a-half times.

Other findings in the survey were:

- ☐ Students younger than 13 were much less likely to use any drugs — except for glue and solvents — than older students.
- ☐ Alcohol and marijuana were used infrequently by the younger students.
- ☐ Tobacco and alcohol use declined between 1979 and 1981 among male students.
- ☐ More male students than female students used marijuana, prescription barbiturates, heroin or cocaine.
- ☐ There was a significant over-all decline in the use of solvents such as nail polish remover and paint thinner.
- ☐ Use of prescription tranquilizers has dropped slightly since 1977.

CSO: 5320/16

CANADA

MOST PROVINCES OPPOSE SOFTENING OF DRUG LAWS

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 9 Dec 81 p 3

[Text]

OTTAWA (CP) — Led by Attorney-General Roy McMurtry of Ontario, a majority of provinces indicated opposition yesterday to federal plans to soften the law against possession of marijuana and hashish.

Only Quebec and Manitoba offered support for the long-promised shifting of marijuana from regulation under the Narcotics Control Act to the less severe Food and Drug Act.

Officially, Quebec is boycotting the federal-provincial meeting of attorneys-general in protest against the constitutional package favored by Ottawa and the other nine provinces. But although Quebec Justice Minister Marc-Andre Bedard was not present, his province was represented by an observer.

Manitoba's position was expressed by Roland Penner, Attorney-General in the New Democratic Party Government elected Nov. 17.

Ontario led most of the other provinces in an assault on federal plans, saying that to modify the law on possession would be to indicate that possession is no longer a crime.

Delegates said later that Mr. McMurtry's position appeared to be strongly influenced by the conservative police view in the province.

The opposing provinces said propos-

als to modify the law are based on the findings of a federal report by law professor Gerald LeDain that now is more than 10 years old. They said the LeDain report has been outdated by medical indications of harm produced by smoking cannabis drugs.

They also argued it would be inconsistent for Ottawa to reduce penalties for simple possession but to maintain penalties for trafficking, importing and cultivation.

CSO: 5320/16

CANADA

DRUG SEIZURE CALLED LARGEST IN WINDSOR

Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 24 Nov 81 p 2A

[Text]

A Windsor man will be charged today with having about \$400,000 worth of narcotics in what police say is the largest drug seizure in Windsor.

An RCMP spokesman said detectives Leo Berekoff and Robert Saunders were searching a Windsor residence in connection with the investigation into the robbery of Danny's Tavern Sunday, when they discovered the suspected narcotics.

Police, who are still compiling their report, have not released the name of the man or disclosed the kinds of narcotics.

A spokesman said at least

one man would be charged with possession of narcotics for the purpose of trafficking.

Other successful raids have been staged in Windsor during the past 10 years.

In July, 1980, four men were arrested and LSD valued at \$50,000 was seized by a drug squad comprised of Windsor police and RCMP. The men were attempting to transport the narcotics into Canada through the Detroit-Windsor tunnel.

A raid in February, 1979, netted about \$100,000 of various narcotics after police arrested 21 persons on 37 warrants for drug trafficking.

And in 1972, 700 pounds of

marijuana in brick form was seized from a trailer parked behind a Malden Road home by the RCMP and Windsor drug squad. Two persons were arrested in connection with that seizure. The marijuana was valued at \$140,000.

In the tri-county area, 2,000 pounds of marijuana was seized in a 1977 raid, worth nearly \$700,000 at street prices. Four area men were charged in connection with the seizure.

CSO: 5320/16

CANADA

BRIEFS

DRUGS SEIZED IN POLICE RAIDS--Toronto--Ten Metro Toronto people have been arrested and nearly \$1-million worth of drugs seized by Metro Toronto Police after a three-month investigation. A drug squad officer said yesterday it was one of the largest drug seizures by Metro police in several years. In raids on several residences, police found 4,729 grams of hashish, 1,816 grams of hash oil, 653 grams of high-quality (concentrated) cocaine and a small amount of marijuana, with an estimated total street value of \$914,500. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 23 Oct 81 p 11]

MAJOR DRUG RAID--Huntsville, Ont.--The Orilla detachment of the RCMP, working in conjunction with the Ontario Provincial Police, has seized more than 450 kilograms of hashish and high-grade marijuana with a street value estimated at between \$3-million and \$5-million. Two Huntsville residents and a Toronto man were charged with possession of a narcotic for the purpose of trafficking after a raid on a house near here on Sunday night. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 17 Nov 81 p 4]

CSO: 5320/17

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE LABORATORY DISCOVERED--Florence--F-2 agents have discovered a modern cocaine laboratory in the heart of this city, the capital of Caqueta Department. The discovery was made during a raid on the home of (Libardo Gaitan Fierro), a wealthy businessman. [PA232030 Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Dec 81]

DRUG CONFISCATION--The Colombian police have dealt a harsh blow to the drug traffickers operating in the various parts of the country. A gang was dismantled and a 27-ton marijuana shipment was seized. The traffickers are (Ezequiel Paredes Guerra), (Alfonso Marin Ramirez), (Hugo Perez), (Jose Gomez), (Miguel Asierra Rodillo), (Pascual Arregozes) and (Hugo Perney Arregozes). [PA050325 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 Jan 82]

DRUG TRAFFICKER'S ARREST--National police in Cucuta arrested (Adolfo Marin Pineda) and seized 1,400 mandrake pills, 2,200 marijuana cigarettes and 13,000 pesos in counterfeit 100-peso bills. [PA050325 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 Jan 82]

CSO: 5300/2112

PERU

BRIEFS

COCAINE BASE SEIZURE--The Peruvian Investigative Police (PIP) of Callao last night seized 60 kg of cocaine base worth more than 100 million soles near the Jorge Chavez International airport. The PIP arrested Juan Mamani and a minor whose initials are F.D. [PY261332 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 30 Nov 81 p 17]

DRUG TRAFFICKER BAND DISMANTLED--The narcotics department of the Peruvian Investigative Police has captured members of an international gang of drug traffickers who had set up a laboratory and cocaine leaf maceration tanks in the downtown area of Callao. The police have arrested Carlos Martinelli Castro and Jesus Alfonso Duenas Isla but have not yet managed to capture Elsa Herrera Briceno, who ran the above drug distribution center. [PY261332 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 27 Nov 81 p 34]

COCAINE DISPATCHED BY MAIL--The Peruvian Investigative Police have disrupted a drug traffickers' organization that dispatched camouflaged cocaine hydrochlorate to Canada by registered mail. They have arrested Arana Ampuero, 24, who was in charge of dispatching the mail, along with Octavio Choza Bondon, 24, Jaime Raul Vega Tarazona, 23, and Jack William Arbildo Estrella, who were the leaders of the organization. [PY202201 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 11 Dec 81 p A-14]

CSO: 5300/2115

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

COCAINE ARREST--The metropolitan police arrested (Severino Cardoni), (Antonio Cardoni) and (Antonio Hernandez) near (?El Polvorin de La Pastora) Plaza. The young men were carrying 14 jars of cocaine. They are being questioned by the (Totiza) intelligence division. The technical corps of the judicial police drugs division will continue the investigation. [PA300136 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 29 Dec 81]

CSO: 5300/2115

DENMARK

NORWAY, SWEDEN DEMAND DENMARK TIGHTEN DRUG CONTROL

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 8 Nov 81 p 7

[Article by Jorn Brandt]

[Text] Both the Swedish and Norwegian governments are putting pressure on Denmark to implement a more restrictive narcotics policy.

Sweden's minister for social affairs and Nordic cooperation, Karin Soder, said to BERLINGSKE on Sunday, "It is very important for combatting the narcotics problem in Denmark, Norway and Sweden that we arrive at a common policy in the field. Therefore, the Swedish government has proposed a ministerial level meeting, for example in January 1982, to consider the problems."

Before that Karin Soder would like to have a special meeting with a representative of the Danish government in preparation for the tri-partite meeting. The reason is that, according to Karin Soder, Denmark takes a more liberal position towards narcotics than Sweden and Norway, and that creates problems.

Karin Soder's position is supported by the Norwegian minister of social affairs, Leif Arne Heloe, who says, "In Norway we are clearly more restrictive in regard to narcotics than in Denmark. I am not going to involve myself in the policy of the Danish Government, but it seems to me that such a meeting can be useful. For example, I can mention that we in Norway are considering increasing the maximum punishment for serious narcotics crimes from 10 to 15 years."

Nordic Demand that Christiania be Closed Being Considered by Folketing

Ritt Bjerregaard, the minister of social affairs, will answer in parliament the demand of members of the Nordic Council's social committee that Christiania be closed up. It is the Conservative social-political chairman, Agnete Laustsen, who is putting the question to the minister of social affairs. Recently, the former undersecretary in the Norwegian department of social affairs, Per Nyhus, described Christiania as the "Nordic center for narcotics trafficking and crime."

Agnete Laustsen says, "The other Nordic countries are demanding that Christiania be closed up, which is quite understandable. Children and young people go to rack and ruin, and Nordic parents must seek help through their embassies to get their children home from Christiania."

She now wants to know what the minister of social affairs is going to do as a result of the Nordic complaints.

Members of all the parties in the Swedish parliament have demanded in a letter to the Danish government that it close up Christiania.

In the letter it is stated among other things, "Christiania is a haunt and Nordic center in the sale of narcotics to Nordic young people and consequently is a contributing cause to the narcotics market in Sweden." At the same time the signatories are of the opinion that the existence of Christiania is in violation of the international narcotics convention of 1961, which Denmark signed, and consequently they conclude their petition to the government by demanding "that the government of Denmark close up Christiania and at the same time take responsibility for the addicts in Christiania."

The letter was sent by "The National Association for a Narcotics Free Society," which is a Swedish popular movement against the misuse of narcotics. It has about 5,000 members, many of them professional social workers. One of them, Melvyn Lundholm from the narcotics section of Malmo's administration of social services, was one of the speakers at a seminar for journalists which the Central Association for Information Regarding Alcohol and Narcotics held. He said,

"Denmark follows a consistent and extremely liberal policy regarding narcotics, not least when hashish is involved. In Denmark in practice the possession and smoking of hashish, is not a crime, neither is the cultivation of cannabis, if there is no intention to misuse or sell. This cultivation is quite extensive, and there is much to indicate hashish grown in Denmark is exported."

Melvyn Lundholm criticizes the practice of the Danish police in issuing warnings to people who have been arrested with up to 100 grams hashish in their possession, and he continues with a passion to deplore the conditions in Christiania.

"The sale of hashish goes on completely openly in Christiania. Sellers stand and offer their goods in open competition with each other in regard to the daily price, quality etc, and, according to a resident of Christiania, most of the inhabitants of Christiania support themselves by selling hashish."

Melvyn Lundholm is of the opinion that the Danish narcotic policy influences the market in all of Scandinavia.

He said to BERLINGSKE on Sunday, "by allowing open narcotics traffic in Christiania the Danish Government is influencing the narcotics market in Sweden in a very serious manner. For example, it is easy for Swedish addicts to make good buys for little money in Christiania and then sell the stuff in Sweden. Consequently, the Swedish politicians must put pressure on the Danish Government in order to get the Danish free city closed."

Restrictive Enough

According to sources close to the government, people in Denmark are not particularly pleased with the initiative of the Swedish social minister, Karin Soder, for a

Scandinavian narcotics meeting, as mentioned above. Inside the government it has created problems as to whether Denmark should be represented by the minister of justice, Ole Espersen, the minister of social affairs, Ritt Bjerregaard, or by the minister of internal affairs, Henning Rasmussen; and it has created displeasure among some Social Democrats.

Henning Rasmussen himself said to BERLINGSKE on Sunday, "It is true that the Swedish proposal involves a long series of problems involving the jurisdiction of several ministries, and we shall now consider from the Danish side how we can tackle it."

The minister of justice, Ole Espersen, believes that the Danish narcotics policy is sufficiently restrictive, but he naturally wants to consider the problems with his Nordic colleagues.

The Social Democratic member of parliament, Bernhardt Tastesen, who was previously chairman of the Folketing's social committee and who has been intimately involved for many years with the misuse of narcotics, says, "I believe a tightening of the narcotics policy will create more problems than we had previously. For example, if we intervene more in regard to hashish, we are taking a chance that the young people will go over to harder stuff."

Without Blame

This view is supported by the cultural sociologist at the University of Copenhagen, Jacques Blum, who has been involved with the problems of deviates, including Christiania.

He says, "Christiania is not to blame for the Swedish problem. It has, like in Denmark, primarily social causes, and I regard the initiative of the Swedes as an effort to ship their problems with narcotics over the Oresund to Denmark."

"We have in Christiania almost overcome the hard stuff, but quite rightly not with hashish which is sold relatively openly. But if the Swedes want to help the Danes with the narcotics problem by having city areas closed down, they should rather point to Vesterbro and Nørrebro. It is there that the real problems are to be found, and it is there that action should be taken. Not with a more restrictive policy but with a greater social effort."

6893

CSO: 5300/2072

DENMARK

PRESSURE FROM NORWAY, SWEDEN MAY FORCE STRONGER DRUG LAW

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 6 Dec 81 p 15

[Text] It appears that the Danish government is beginning to be impressed by the harsh Swedish and Norwegian criticism of, among other things, the sale of hashish in the so-called free town Christiania in Copenhagen.

The minister of justice in Denmark, Ole Espersen, said on Saturday that he can contemplate stricter laws against the possession of hashish if that leads to a restriction in hashish dealing.

Espersen said in an interview on Danish radio that he is positively inclined to the idea of establishing fines for the possession of hashish in very small quantities if that can limit the hashish dealing. Today in Denmark only a warning is given if it is believed that the possession of heroin is only for private use.

The general view in Copenhagen seems to be that Espersen was just trying to get votes since he is just now being severely pressed by several bourgeois parties who want harder measures against both the conditions in Christiania and hashish in general.

But a source within the Danish police believes that it is primarily the Swedish and Norwegian criticism of Denmark that is behind Espersen's softer attitude.

An investigation was made public on Saturday indicating that 47 percent of adult Danes want Christiania ended when its license expires. Thirty-two percent want the "free town" to continue in the future. The Folketing will decide Christiania's future next year.

6893
CSO: 5300/2099

FINLAND

DOMESTIC DRUG PROBLEM COMPARED TO OTHER NORDIC COUNTRIES

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 17 Nov 81 p 11

[Article by Irma Stenback]

[Text] A new drug wave is on its way to the Nordic countries. There are 500 Finnish drug addicts in Sweden and 5,000 in Finland. Does Finland have a drug problem? By all means no, but there are Finns who do. The worst drug addicts have moved to Sweden or Denmark, because of easier availability of drugs. They have moved there to die, because they do not know about places where they could get help, in these countries any more than in Finland.

We do indeed have quite a few people with drug problems: 5,000 drug addicts and 50,000 who experiment with drugs. Drug pushing is happening all over Finland. A new wave of hashish is sweeping over the Nordic countries and the hard drugs have come to stay. The United Nations are predicting that the 1980's will be the worst decade of drug abuse ever.

The increase in international drug trafficking has resulted in drugs being smuggled even into Finland in various ways. Nobody can say with certainty whether the drug mafia is settled in Finland, or if it has stopped in our neighbor country to the west.

The golden triangle of Southeast Asia, Thailand, Laos and Burma, and nowadays especially Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan as well as Turkey of Europe and most recently Mexico of South America produce per year hundreds of tons of illegal crude opium and finished heroin for the drug markets of Europe and the United States.

Based on the amounts of drugs seized, the main drug countries of Europe are the Federal Republic of Germany, Holland, Denmark and Yugoslavia. According to statistics the number of deaths caused by overdosage of drugs is highest in the Federal Republic of Germany, more than 600 per year.

Last year there were no deaths in Finland caused by overdoses of the so-called hard drugs, amphetamines and opiates (heroin, morphine). Last year the number of suicides that were clearly caused by overdoses of medicinal drugs was 160. In the beginning of the last decade the number of deaths caused by drugs was around 10 each year.

The number of medicine abusers is currently estimated to about 3,000 and the number is 200 according to official statistics. In the years following World War II there were about 400 heroin abusers in Finland. In the late 1960's only 150 of them were living.

The Finnish people prefer to use liquor and medicines to kill themselves rather than traditional drugs.

According to the new narcotics law that came into force in 1972 it is a criminal offense to manufacture or let be manufactured, transport, trade, buy, sell, act as an agent for, possess or use narcotics without permission. It is also a criminal offense to give to someone else a drug prescription or another document for which drugs can be obtained.

Our narcotics law is extremely strict, because it is only in Finland, Norway and Greece, that even the use of drugs is a criminal offense. The longest sentence for drug offenses in Finland is at the most 10 years, but in practice the jail terms rarely exceed 3 years.

In Holland and Denmark it is even legal to possess hashish for private use. The liberal drug policies of these countries are continuously subject for dispute at the international meetings on drug abuse.

According to the history of drugs opium was grown in Europe already 4,000 years ago and the Chinese used marijuana as an anesthetic 2,000 years ago. Already Homer wrote about opium and Herodotos wrote about hashish.

The Drug Roulette

In 1967 drugs were seized in Finland for the first time and the narcotics group of the criminal police was formed. Since then physicians and sociologists have been writing about the drug situation in Finland without being able to clarify whether we have a drug problem or not.

With the approach of an investigating journalist and with the support of a "laudatur" degree, Sirkka Germain revealed in her report "The Drug Roulette Is Going Around," that was published last year, that it is a fact which has been observed for a long time: drugs are a serious youth problem in Finland.

Germain's book is the first investigative work to understand the Finnish drug youth within the environment that they live in. How does a young person, who has no job, who has no place to live and who is emotionally and physically dependent on drugs, pay for his portion of drugs? Through stealing, of course.

"Finland has transferred its drug problem to Sweden and Denmark, where the worst users of hard drugs are found. These drug emigrants from Finland are truly living outside society. Pleasant treatment cannot be received in Finland. Aftercare does not exist. The authorities are pleased as long as these young people are off their lists," says Germain.

According to Germain there is a problem that is more serious than the physical dependence of the drug youth. That is the social spiral. Many young people were so young when they started to use drugs that they never had time to form any other habits.

While Germain was working in Stockholm she became familiar with the drug spiral of the Finnish drug youth and the dead end street to which it leads. There is no place in Sweden where the Finnish drug addicts could receive treatment.

In Finland the young drug addicts do not try to get help, because they consider the treatment available completely useless. And even if the young addict would get care in an institution, there would not be much chance thereafter to get a job and a place to live. The drug roulette has started: treatment, jail and then release.

"The young drug addict is always uncertain. He always lies about his past. Above all, the young drug addict needs community life and since the established society cannot offer that to him, the young person resorts to an artificial world of drugs."

It is not possible to kill them either. And for what would these young people be rehabilitated? For unemployment, to be homeless? The efficient society is only interested in its productive members. The above litany was the standard answer of the Finnish social workers, who had confessed that their work was wasted, when Germain had asked them about the treatment of young drug addicts.

Stockholm

There are, according to statistics, around 500 Finnish drug addicts in Stockholm. They are generally heroin addicts, they have escaped from prison and are wanted by the police in Finland. It is estimated that there are even more Finnish drug addicts in Copenhagen than in Stockholm.

According to the young drug addicts and also according to the police, it is easier to commit burglaries in Sweden and Denmark, and it is also easier to get drugs. This is one reason why the worst abusers of hard drugs have left Finland.

It is estimated that the drugs in Sweden swallow over 30 billion Swedish crowns, in Finland more than a million Finnish marks.

Chief of the drug squad of the Central Criminal Police, police inspector Olli Weckman, is of the opinion that we cannot speak about a real drug problem as compared to the other Nordic countries. According to him, the situation has, however, become worse, which is already shown by the fact that beside the hashish wave, amphetamines have also appeared on the market this fall, as well as heroin and LSD, which has not been seen for a long time. The criminal police has in the last 3 years found four amphetamine laboratories run by Finnish people.

During the hot drug periods of the 1960's the average age of the drug abusers was 17 years. In the beginning of the 1970's even 13-year-olds became abusers. In the 1980's the age range is higher up and according to Weckman the average age

is nowadays between 18-24. Individuals of minor age, who are still in school, have joined.

According to Weckman it is relatively easy to get hold of hashish in Finland. The way to harder drugs usually begins with hashish and it is known that hashish makes brain cells degenerate. As far as is known these cells are not restored.

Some week ago the Finnish customs seized upon a record amount of hashish from Thailand that had arrived as air freight. Can this last amount of over 50 kilograms be a sign that the drug mafia is coming to Finland?

"It is possible, but it seems, though, as if the amount seized was not intended for the Finnish drug markets. Maybe it is again a matter of an effort to map out such a situation," guesses Weckman.

The Finnish drug squad is among the last police forces in the Western countries without the right to tap telephone calls. Weckman suspects that there may be a fear in Finland that the right to secretly overhear telephone calls would be used for other purposes than the investigation of crimes. In the other Nordic countries secret overhearing of telephone calls is very rigidly controlled.

The secret overhearing of telephone calls would, according to Weckman, be a means to uncover the largest drug rings. The right to inspect diplomatic mail would also be a welcome aid for the technically deficient police work.

A little less than half of the drug trafficking takes place in the capital including the suburbs. According to chief of the narcotics office of the Helsinki criminal police, Torsti Koskinen, the average drug abuser of the capital is between 20 and 26 years old and he uses a combination of liquor, medicines and drugs, he is a student and he is from the highest social group. The relative number of women has increased significantly.

"Those who get caught are generally drug distributors, not as frequently drug abusers," Koskinen reminds.

"The Finnish unemployed, homeless, new immigrant, who does not speak Swedish, is at the first handshaking offered free tastes of hashish in Kungstradgarden of Stockholm. This way the young person gets into the drug business. After the hashish follows 'piri' or amphetamines and in case heroin is available, the future drug addict has determined his future," says editor Petteri Vaananen, producer of the drug report on television last Sunday, that stirred so much commotion. Two Finnish drug addicts that live in Stockholm were interviewed on the show.

A heroin addict can expect to live for 10 years on the average. Around 50 individuals die each year in Stockholm due to overdoses of heroin.

The drug statistics depend on how active the police are. The police get information about only around 5 percent of all drug crimes.

Last year 1,076 drug crimes took place in Finland, drugs were seized 164 times and there were 13 drug store burglaries. Eleven kilograms of cannabis were seized and a few grams of heroin. The Swedish drug police seized 719 kilograms of hashish last year. That is a tremendous difference as compared to us.

Heroin has an established position in Denmark and Sweden. According to the Nordic Council the collaboration between the member countries leaves a lot to be desired with regard to the fight against the drug problem. The council has actually recommended that the legislation be made more uniform, that the police and the customs get more manpower and that there be a reintroduction of the requirement that the passports be stamped for traveling from one Nordic country to another.

Drug Trafficking on the Streets of Helsinki

Jaska, 32, is one of the best known drug people in Helsinki. He has spent 5 years in jail for selling heroin and amphetamines, substances that he once used himself.

According to Jaska, drug trafficking is taking place in Finland just like it did in the past years, although it has moved from the streets indoors. There are, however, exceptions, especially in the area around the Erottaja. It is possible to get hold of heroin, although of a low quality, as long as you know where to go, whom to ask.

"The police get their teeth into the amateurs, the drip users, the school children who smoke their first hashish joints as an experiment in the park of the Parliament building."

During one period of his life Jaska went through all the possible institutions for treatment of drug abusers that there are in Finland, Jarvenpaa, Pena, the Helsinki Youth Station, the Junes commune and the Hesperia Hospital. None of these helped.

"It was of course good to hang around in these places before getting before the judges. The treatment institutions are worthless in Finland and the treatment series suffer from lack of competence. The therapists talk about the lamb's head. Of course they are a little bit clever when they try to extract complexes and impotence. The biggest problem is that they know nothing about the drug addicts' world."

Jaska has calmed down by now. As seen from the outside, his life seems to be in order, he has a wife, and a firstborn, who is a daughter. What takes place inside the former jailbird, drug addict, the citizen who has been through hard times, is less predictable.

"Justice never wins in this world. Even inside the prisons the guards respect only the 'big criminals,' swindlers and the like. To them a drug addict is slime and you feel that."

After the Dolorex hassle the oldest drug addicts have, according to Jaska, died like cockroaches. Those who used to use rex (Dolorex), are now alcoholics, Jaska does not drink liquor himself, because it only gives you a bad posture.

Oso

Oso sits together with his girlfriend on a sofa in a basement room in Eira. This is where the people who vegetate get together, the defenders of budding youth, representatives of the counterculture, the writers of the UUDEN AJAN AURA paper and their supporters..

Oso is a 31-year-old former drug addict, who started his experimenting with hashish during the golden age of the hippie movement, he used amphetamines now and then, as well as medicines. Nowadays he smokes "only hashish" in the company of good friends.

"Why drugs? People become alienated in this society, because people are not allowed to live in accordance with their own nature, their own psychological needs. No animal species destroys the earth like the human beings do," says Oso, who has read Santeri Alkio philosophically, theosophically.

As a way to treat drug addicts Oso would like to use the old Nordic village municipality as a model, wherein the drug addicts live together with other people and work as much as they are able to. They would gradually reach the same inner world as they do when under the effect of drugs.

Oso and his friends do not support the use of drugs. Despite this Oso would like to legalize hashish and marijuana, knowing very well what the large majority of the Finnish people think of such a proposal. After his years of drifting, suicidal thoughts and living under a boat, Oso has decided to get along with today's society, although he has not adjusted to it.

Heli

Heli is a 55-year-old former heroin addict living in Helsinki, a former victim of the Dolorex hearings. For decades Dolorex was the medicine abused by our drug addicts. Now this disputed drug has been removed from the market and it can no longer be obtained from the apothecaries of Finland.

"I started using heroin together with my husband right after the war. In 1955 I seriously tried to stop my heroin shots at Nikkila, where excellent therapy was available. You could get insuline and good food at Nikkila. We did a lot of skiing and the family was allowed to visit. It is no longer possible to get any good treatment. They are so devilishly harsh even at Hesperia."

In Heli's opinion Dolorex is not a narcotic, but an anesthetic, a pain killer. Rex does not make you high, it helps and soothes.

"The Dolorex trial was awful. We were not even allowed to defend ourselves. Old drug addicts like us die nowadays while standing up. The doctors give Diapam instead of rex, but it does not help at all, of course. They should have shot them down instead, why torture old drug addicts."

The trial was such a hard blow for Heli that she decided to give up the hard drugs. She has so far stood behind her decision.

Sami

Minna is sitting in the Old Church Park of Helsinki, the Plague Park on a bench beside a person with whom she has had the only human relationship in her life, Sami. Some hours earlier he had met his friend in the restroom of the Erottaja kiosk. The friend had returned from the Sweden shuttle ship and Sami had bought a heroin shot from him with 1,000 marks.

In the middle of the street crowds of Helsinki! Within a stone's throw from the narcotics police! Just a hundred meters from the former drug park and the drug bar!

The narcotics advisory committee could for a change take a tour around the Plague Park that has been sobered up and then forgotten, around the Erottaja, the railway station, a tour through Espoo, visit the Turku County Jail, Malmskillnadsgatan in Stockholm, Christiania in Copenhagen and count on their fingers how many thousands of Finnish drug addicts they see.

The Treatment for Drug Abusers Is Down and Out

The narcotics committee presented their 200-page-long report in 1969. The narcotics advisory committee, formed 2 years later, put together their proposal for developing treatment for addicts of narcotics and medicines.

What has happened? Nothing. The lack of municipal treatment places for drug addicts is chronic.

In 1969 the psychologists' association joined associate professor Kettil Bruun in his controversial opinion that only the possession of drugs for distribution purposes, not at all the use of drugs, would be a criminal offense. The amendment proposed by the committee would, according to the psychologists, bring the young drug addicts, who need treatment, into prison.

Has this actually taken place? Yes.

Nowadays about 10 drug addict patients, a fraction of the actual number, are admitted to the municipal treatment institutions, the a-clinics, the youth dispensaries and the psychiatric hospitals each year.

Only the police records report several thousand pure narcotics addicts. In the prisons about 50 problem narcotics addicts sit who are in need of treatment.

Treatment is not obligatory for a narcotics addict in Finland. A young drug addict can, however, under the "direction" of the police and the social inspector, be passed on to an institution to sober up. Withdrawal treatment is usually not practiced in Finnish hospitals. The Hesperia hospital in Helsinki admits, in exceptional cases, one drug abuser at a time for withdrawal treatment.

The Hesperia dispensary has for about 20 years provided so-called methadone treatment, whereby attempts are made to get narcotics addicts to withdraw from drugs through daily administration of a specific amount of drugs, usually

methadone mixed with juice. Methadone is the most common withdrawal and substitution drug for narcotics addicts used in the world.

This fall three citizens are drinking Hesperia's methadone juice. The number of applicants for the juice line is severalfold larger.

If you study the actual numbers to evaluate the success of the treatment of the young drug addicts, the person who has accomplished the most is the former deacon, now someone who thinks he can make the world a better place, Aulis Junes, chief of the Arkadia youth clinic and its founder.

Junes' group which for 12 years has been working in different locations of the capital, nowadays centered at Linnunlaulutie, does not treat intoxicated young people or young drug addicts with pills but instead with work and fellowship. The work community of Arkadia consists of 10 people who make a living by collecting rags and with flea market activities in the large old wooden building, and they give each other support. Forty-five percent of the Arkadia individuals have returned to normal life in society.

"Society's biggest mistake is to consider drug abuse a mental disease. The Finnish treatment institutions want only customers who stay for the rest of their lives in agreement with the model provided by the revivalist movements. That is what is called mental hospitalization. The best treatment for the young drug addicts is a system wherein they help themselves, sane farmers' ethics," assures Junes.

According to Aulis Junes the drug-addicted poor have moved to Sweden and Denmark, the wealthier drug addicts have moved to West Germany. Big news are the cannabis products that are smuggled from the United States. Many a mother has called up Junes, startled, when she has noticed that her child, who has been a student in the United States, is using drugs when returning to Finland.

"More serious than the drug problem is the problem regarding where young people live. It is a shame to put children into basements, since they are meant for storing potatoes. Punks do not use drugs. To brand their hangout the Bat Cave was simply a craving for sensation on the part of the commercial press," said Junes.

9662

CSO: 5300/2090

FINLAND

NEW PRESCRIPTION LAW TO CONTROL NARCOTICS IN EFFECT

Helsinki UUSI SUOMI in Finnish 17 Nov 81 p 11

[Article by Jaakko Lehtinen]

[Text] There will be new regulations for prescriptions from the beginning of next year. The altered prescription regulations or the directions for prescribing medicine and delivery of medicine will make it significantly harder to prescribe narcotics and medicines that affect the central nervous system.

There are changes also in the regulations concerning liquor and medicines that contain alcohol.

Otherwise the regulations have been adjusted only when it has been proven difficult to interpret a regulation, according to a spokesman for the National Board of Health.

As in the past, the physician is allowed to prescribe medicines only to a person whose disease he himself has diagnosed. The prescription should usually be given in writing, but sometimes in exceptional cases, over the telephone.

The amount of medicine that can be prescribed may correspond only to 1 year of treatment.

A new rule is that it is not permitted to use a prescription with the name of the medicine printed or stamped onto the form.

It is emphasized in the regulations that the purpose of the drug should always be specified on the prescription. There must be a very particular reason for such a specification to be excluded.

Narcotics Must Not Be Prescribed Over the Telephone

The physician should always give the patient sufficient information regarding the purpose of the medicine, its use, its side effects and possible harmful effects, for example, the effect on driving.

In a telephone prescription the amount of medicine should be limited to the minimum. Certain substances cannot be prescribed over the telephone, including actual

narcotics, medicines that require an original prescription, alcohol, medicinal brandy, medicinal wine and rubbing alcohol.

Alcohol Prescriptions Hard To Get

The physicians no longer easily give out the alcohol prescriptions that the farmers in the country used to want--no matter how sick they might be.

Within certain limits the physician has the right to prescribe alcohol for the patient "for external use."

According to the regulations alcohol can be prescribed only in cases when the physician determines that he cannot prescribe any other substance because of the possible side effects.

Concentrated alcohol (spiritus forte) should when possible be replaced by rubbing alcohol.

Maximum 200 g Medicinal Brandy

The amount of alcohol prescribed by a physician must not exceed an average of 1,000 g per month based on half-yearly calculations.

The prescriptions for spirit, medicinal brandy, medicinal wine and rubbing alcohol remain in the apothecary, where they are stored for 10 years.

The physician should keep records about for whom, for what purpose, and how much alcohol or other medicine containing alcohol he has prescribed.

The maximum amount of medicinal brandy that can be prescribed with one prescription is 200 g. The amounts of medicinal wine and rubbing alcohol are not limited.

A bachelor of medicine can prescribe spirit and medicines containing alcohol only to patients.

Strict Regulations for Narcotics

The new directions have special emphasis on narcotics regulations.

It is usually stated that when actual narcotics are prescribed the physician should be especially careful. The drug must not be prescribed for a patient whom the physician does not know.

Narcotics should further always be prescribed in writing on a special narcotics prescription form. On the prescription should also be included the personal identification and the address.

Similar regulations apply to the prescribing of special medicines that affect the central nervous system (the PKV special preparations).

Stricter Attitude Toward Falsifications

Apothecary Pentti Saari of the University Pharmacy is of the opinion that it was a necessary and pertinent measure to reform and adjust the regulations for the prescription of drugs.

"Many useful and good matters have been taken into account in the amendment."

Because of the new regulations regarding the selling of drugs the ambiguities of the prescriptions are reduced and the patients get the right amounts of the right medicine with more certainty than before.

"Only practice will show what effect the reformed regulations will have on preventing the attempts to forge prescriptions. Such tricks are not uncommon nowadays."

"For example in our pharmacy a few falsifications per year are uncovered."

The Physicians' Handwriting Continues To Be a Problem

"The prescription written by a physician is not always clear and unambiguous, as it absolutely should be," state physicians Timo Klaukka and Heikki Karppanen in the newest issue of LAAKARILEHTI.

"Unclear handwriting is often a fact. The matter is, however, often helped by the fact that the physicians use a clear stamp to clarify the names," says apothecary Saari.

"When the name of a drug is unclearly written the patient may get a completely different medicine than the one that the physician intended," Klaukka and Karppanen point out.

9662
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FRANCE

BRIEFS

DRUG SEIZURE--Nine kilos of drugs have been seized in Sete. Police have arrested a Spaniard who was transporting eight kilos of cannabis oil and one kilo of resin concealed in the bodywork of his car. He had come on a car-ferry from Morocco. The drugs were worth about 350,000 francs. [LD070246 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 6 Jan 82]

CSO: 5300/2118

NETHERLANDS

METHADONE DISTRIBUTION IN AMSTERDAM VIEWED

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 4 Dec 81 p 36

[Article by Lotta Schullerqvist]

[Text] In Amsterdam there are up to 7,000 heavy drug abusers.
Heroin is sold at almost every street corner.

The authorities, in order to try to reduce crime, offer methadone--a synthetic morphine--to addicts instead of the expensive, illegal narcotic.

Buses drive around between different places to where addicts can come and get their daily dose. When the project is fully in operation, 1,000 addicts will get methadone in this manner.

Amsterdam was at the beginning of the seventies a refuge center for the hippie generation hashish smokers; the liberal Dutch narcotic policy permitted the open use of different drugs.

"A few years ago the government realized that the soft line toward misuse was no longer feasible. Addicts only increased. Robberies, thefts and prostitution made the streets more and more insecure. Amsterdam's reputation as a tourist town was in danger. In order to try to arrest this development, we decided to go in for a big methadone program," Dus Fabius and Etienne Huberts say. They work at the Amsterdam's municipal health service administration and are responsible for planning the methadone project.

Reaching More

"With methadone we reach a larger segment of addicts than with individual-oriented care which aims toward freedom from drugs. Those individuals who are not motivated to end their narcotic addiction control their dependence on drugs through methadone and avoid using all their waking hours to hunt for heroin."

Methadone has been used in Dutch narcotics care during most of the seventies, both at institutions and by family doctors who write prescriptions for individual addicts.

The first project using buses bringing methadone treatment to reach immigrant groups who did not seek a doctor or other care was started a few years ago.

Later prostitutes received treatment this way since they did not generally seek the usual care.

The bus program was expanded still further this summer. One thousand addicts can now get their daily dose from one of the two buses which drive around between definite "stops."

A doctor's certificate or an examination and an interview at one of the methadone program's four open correctional centers for addicts is required to get into the program. There is no age limit and no requirement to be clean of drugs to get into the program, but on the other hand at least 4 years of addiction.

The individual who needs something more than methadone is referred from the buses to the open correctional reception centers where there are, in addition to doctors, psychologists and social workers.

Must Want To

"About half the people who come to the buses ask for social help. But only a fifth seriously want to end their addiction. We pin much of our hope on them, but for those who don't want to, we can't do more than give them methadone," says Ernest Buning, who is a psychologist and coordinator at one of the open correctional reception centers.

One can be referred by the reception center to treatment or to some social help organization. In Holland there is no socialized medicine. It is handled by private foundations, often with church organizations behind them. The municipalities and institutions purchase the services of the foundations for the citizens.

Such a foundation is "De Regenboog," the Rainbow, which conducts social field work, provides narcotics information, contacts parents and family, and after-care for addicts. Marjolyn Keesmaat, a field worker, relates:

"We work primarily in the addicts' own environment and try to help them survive. We take no responsibility for their lives but try to get them to do that themselves. Those who want to can stop the habit and get support, but we don't try to convince anyone--that is fruitless. To those people who want to be free of narcotics, we try to give more comfortable life, among other ways by helping them with methadone."

Marjolyn does not regard methadone as a narcotic but as a medicine for withdrawal.

Critical

The social workers can refer those people who want to stop their habit to a treatment institution. One of the largest in Holland is the Jellinek Center which has a number of counseling, detoxifying and treatment clinics, and after-care homes for both alcoholics and narcotics addicts.

Erik Grannat works in one of the advising offices for addicts:

"We are critical in regard to the methadone buses. There, a strong drug is handed out free, and the drug abuser is allowed to remain in his old environment. There is no way of determining if all who come to the buses really need methadone. It happens that 14-15 year olds obtain methadone there and that is completely crazy: it creates a strong dependence.

"Methadone is an effective way to keep addicts under control and to give the town a nice appearance. But one is risking making thousands into legal addicts for life. Politically, it is profitable to put all the money in methadone instead of in the care which can really help addicts. It looks like something is finally being done.

6893

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NORWAY

CUSTOMS SERVICE REPORTS BIG INCREASE IN DRUG SEIZURES

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 21 Nov 81 p 9

[Article by Jarit Jahreie]

[Text] The Customs Service has so far this year confiscated 31 percent more narcotics than for the same period last year. The quantity is increasing from year to year. The year's confiscation has a value of about 5 million kroner on the open market. The confiscation of liquor and wine has also increased over last year's. And the gigantic confiscation at Nosodden is not taken into account. That will make a big impact on the year's statistics.

"It can be naturally concluded that there is more smuggling now than before. But I hope and believe that the big confiscations are due to more effective inspection. In any case, custom inspections have been increased," says consultant Vidar Vestreng in the Customs Service to ARBEIDERBLADET.

There were, in regard to narcotics, 166 confiscations by 31 October last year. For the same period this year the number is 219.

The greatest increase has been in the cannabis group which includes marijuana and hashish. Here it has doubled in comparison with last year. The cannabis confiscations amount to just under 5 million kroner on the open market. There has not been any noticeable increase in regard to "hard stuff" like heroin. Thirty-five grams have been confiscated up to now. According to police figures, a gram of heroin costs 5000 kroner on the street.

"It was not long ago that a confiscation of 10 to 15 grams of hashish made the press. Today it is nothing to talk about any longer. Five to 10 grams is unfortunately a daily occurrence," Vestreng says.

"Where do most of the confiscations take place?"

"On the ferries, first of all the Denmark boats, and after that air and mail. I have the impression that small quantities do come from neighboring countries, but the greatest part comes from far away. The biggest confiscation this year was in Bergen. Here, we got 9.7 kilograms which came from Brazil. Five grams was cocaine, which at the moment is little known in Norway, and which we hope we can keep outside our borders," Vestreng says.

Hard Liquor and Wine

In regard to liquor the Customs Service had confiscated about 6,000 liters hard liquor and 4,000 liters wine before the gigantic confiscation last Wednesday at Nesodden. Last year the corresponding figures were 5,100 liters hard liquor and 2,100 liters wine.

"The confiscation at Nesodden has not been totaled up, but it will involve probably about 10,000 bottles. I cannot really recall our coming across such a large quantity in recent times, and the confiscation will materially affect the year's statistics, "first consultant Vestreng says.

"Is it largely small-scale smugglers you apprehend, Vestreng?"

"The number of confiscations as of 30 September was 14,000. It is largely people who try to take in three to four bottles over the legal quota. We confiscate the largest quantities on freighters and fishing boats. There are perhaps 8 to 10 men on board who take along about 100 bottles for distribution. On the whole, quite a bit is smuggled in along the whole coast, "Vidar Vestreng says.

6893

CSO: 5300/2093

NORWAY

STORTING APPROVES MEASURES TO COMBAT NARCOTICS

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 24 Nov 81 p 11

[Text] The Storting yesterday gave a green light to the government: New strong efforts will be made to get at the narcotics problem. A new all out campaign against narcotics costing five million kroner will be put into effect. Mona Rikke, the minister of justice, informed the Storting yesterday that the tough plan against narcotics which the Storting's judicial committee has requested will be formulated by the undersecretary's committee which will handle child and youth questions.

The Storting granted late yesterday evening an extra appropriation totaling some 17.8 million kroner to the current year's budget for the narcotics measure. The funds will be used in the aforementioned tough campaign, to increase the resources of the municipalities, for the police and the prison system to have increased funds, at the same time that the Customs Service will obtain funds for new technical equipment to hinder the smuggling of narcotics into Norway. The Storting voted unanimously for the proposed appropriations.

Mona Rokke, minister of justice, and Helen Bosterud (Labor), chairperson of the Storting's judicial committee, emphasized that steps must be taken on the preventive level if young people are to be prevented from coming in contact with narcotics. The cabinet minister pointed out that much serious crime follows in the wake of narcotics, including prostitution.

All substances are dangerous. Like her fellow party member Morten Steenstrup, who is chairman for the matter in the Storting, the minister of justice pointed out even small doses of hashish are dangerous. They both maintained that the tough campaign which is to be initiated strongly emphasizes this.

6893

CSO: 5300/2903

NORWAY

THREE ARRESTED IN HASHISH SMUGGLING CASE

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 26 Nov 81 p 13

[Text] A Norwegian, an Englishman and a Canadian woman are in custody after the narcotics police in Oslo uncovered a hashish ring in the capital last month. Nine other people were arrested and placed in custody as minor distributors, but they have now been set free. The Englishman is charged with having brought about 10 kilograms of hashish into Norway from Pakistan, while the Norwegian has confessed to selling the hashish. The woman denies she is guilty. They are all indicted in accordance with paragraph 162 of the criminal law, the so-called "professional paragraph."

It was in the beginning of October that police investigators began to keep a watch on an apartment in Oslo, and on 21 October the police struck and searched the apartment. Two kilograms of hashish was found there. At the same time, nine people visiting the apartment were arrested, including the Englishman who is 34 years old. The apartment owner, a 32-year-old Norwegian, was also arrested. Except for the Englishman, the other visitors were regarded as minor distributors. They came to the apartment to get stuff for further sale and for their own use. They were aged 20 to 35.

The Englishman had with him a kilogram of hashish when he was seized. He was living at a hotel in Oslo, and the police found, during a search of the room, an additional 4.7 kilograms of hashish. During the search of the room of a 43-year-old Canadian woman who lived at the same hotel, the police found 122,500 kroner in cash, most of it in Norwegian kroner but also some British pounds. The woman admitted that she was safeguarding the money for the Englishman but says that she did not assume that it came from the sale of narcotics. The money is payment for the two kilograms of hashish which was confiscated in the Norwegian's apartment. The police have also examined the bankbooks of the Norwegian but they have not found anything which they can connect with the narcotics sale.

The Englishman admitted at the hearing that he has smuggled in about 10 kilograms of hashish from Pakistan. He flew from Pakistan to Amsterdam and from there on to Fornebu. The hashish was hidden in a trunk with a double bottom. He said he fixed up the trunk himself and it took him a couple of days to make the double bottom.

The 32-year-old Norwegian is known to the police and he has previously been sentenced to prison but not for narcotics violations. The Englishman has not been previously sentenced in Norway, but he was, together with two countrymen, arrested in Paris in 1973. They had then in their possession 24 kilograms of hashish. The Canadian woman is unknown in connection with narcotics. She stated she was in Norway on a vacation and by chance met the Englishman.

Hashish is now sold in Oslo on the street for 100 kroner per gram, while it is sold in larger quantities to minor distributors for roughly 40,000 kroner a kilogram. The matter is under continued investigation, and for the time being indictments have not been made.

6893

CSO: 5300/2093

SWEDEN

CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION WANTS COMPUTERS FOR DRUGS CONTROL

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 30 Nov 81 p 9

[Article by Sune Olofson]

[Text] The customs administration has been waiting for 5 years for two computer terminals to be used in the fight against narcotics.

Customs wants to place one terminal in its central administrative headquarters, the other at the liaison center in Stockholm. This request was already made in 1977.

The customs administration is, in light of the extent of narcotics smuggling, asking the government that four additional data terminals be acquired and placed in the customs stations in Helsingborg, Arlanda, Malmo and Goteborg.

The customs administration wants all six to be tied into the national police board's data register. This would mean that the customs personnel would have direct access to the police register of individuals under suspicion in connection with narcotics.

Quick Information

"We need quick information in now and then hard-pressed situations," says section chief Sigvard Falkenland, chief of the customs section in the general customs administration.

"A steady stream of travellers comes to our country. Many of them bring along narcotics. The customs administration has difficulty catching these people without access to quick data control."

There exists within the national police a certain reluctance to divest themselves of the reconnaissance support which their register of charges possesses.

"At the same time, we realize that society must make its fight against narcotics more effective. We shall investigate the advantages and disadvantages involved in this. I am in principle in favor of the proposal," says Police Chief Holger Romander.

"It is our intention that only customs officials concerned with crime will have access to the data information," says Sigvard Falkenland.

The cost of the six terminals is estimated to be 185,000 kroner, the operating costs 325,000 per year.

The data terminals thus check not only persons but also the recipients of goods, and firms. The question of respecting the integrity of the people is thus vital.

The Question of Integrity

"Just as soon as anyone asks for data there is always someone who will jump up and talk about integrity," says Tord Rorhamn, chief of the customs administration's data processing section.

"Here it is a question of the integrity of the narcotics smuggler or the health and future of our children. The politicians have never taken a stand on this question."

The government, the department of commerce, will have to decide this question after a reply from the national police.

"The government regards increased cooperation between the police and the customs administration as necessary if we are to solve the narcotics question," says Minister of Commerce Bjorn Molin. "Since we are at the moment working on the budget, I can not say whether the customs administration will get its data terminals, but it is the government's intention to give priority to the fight against narcotics."

6893
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SWEDEN

SUCCESSFUL POLICE OFFENSIVE AGAINST PUSHERS TO CONTINUE

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 4 Dec 81 p 15

[Article by Per-Erik Lagerqvist]

[Text] The 5-week long police offensive, above all in Stockholm, Goteborg and Malmo in pursuit of sellers and buyers of narcotics, has resulted in so many confiscations that the participants in the extensive sweep are anticipating good progress next year.

"Then we will be in a better situation in regard to the external conditions. Then a large part of the business will be outdoors. We have been handicapped, since most of the dealers conduct business indoors," says Tommy Lindstrom of the national police board.

Last autumn the national police board urged all provincial police chiefs and the police chiefs in Stockholm, Goteborg and Malmo to go into action to get at the minor peddlers of narcotics.

"We have noted a tapering-off," said Holger Romander, the national police chief.

Unknown in Goteborg

The first offensive began on 15 October in Goteborg, where bars, youth centers, schools and the hangouts of addicts were above all the objects of raids.

"I am suprised that, to a large degree, a completely unknown clientele was involved," says Police Commissioner Lennart Lindman in Goteborg, after 140 pushers had been apprehended, with fewer than 108 of them under 20 years of age, and very few over 30.

A total of 84 seizures were made in Goteborg. Hashish and amphetamines were chiefly confiscated.

Victims in Stockholm

"We anticipated the national police board's directive," says Police Superintendent Olle Iarsson of the Stockholm police. "Already in the late summer we formed a

narcotics group of 30 people, whose job, among other things, was to destroy the market for pushers. The group aimed at the victims."

In Stockholm at present the number of incidents is just under 10 a day. A normal number for this time of the year, according to Larsson.

Intensive Action In Malmo

Malmo started its narcotics offensive on 2 November and it ends today, 4 December. It has been 5 exceedingly active weeks.

"We have had a total of 16 men in action," commissioner Nils-Erik Lindheim of the Malmo police relates.

Since the majority of the police is relatively new recruits and young, the commando action has been called "mini search."

Raids have been made against hangouts of narcotic addicts, schools, recreational parks and discoteques. The results are regarded as completely satisfactory.

Since the start Commissioner Holger Herven has seized several kilograms of cannabis and hashish, as well as goodly amounts of liquor and stolen goods, worth millions of kroner.

"Shaken Up"

"There is no doubt that we have shaken up the pusher connections considerably. 'Mini-search' has indeed done a job.

'Mini-search' will now be reduced for a while. But since it is a matter of manpower available in the Malmo police, a new action could be mounted with very short notice.

"We shall have a lot going after the new year. The difference will be that this time we won't make announcements when we push the start button."

6893
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SWEDEN

INTERNATIONAL GANG BROKEN; SMUGGLED HEROIN, HASHISH

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 8 Dec 81 p 5

[Article by Leif Dahlin]

[Text] At about 3 o'clock on Sunday afternoon on 24 August last year two surveillance officers from the Huddinge criminal police knocked on the door of a young Syrian in an apartment in Flemingsberg. The man opened the door and took a completely uncooperative attitude towards the visit of the police.

They explained to him that he was to be questioned concerning peddling narcotics to school youth in Flemingsberg and by the Huddinge hospital.

The surveillance men, who regarded these events as a routine, could not in their wildest fantasy have imagined that their action would be the beginning of one of the most extensive narcotics' cases that has been unravelled in the country.

Since then 16 months will soon have passed, and the police have not yet seen the end of the tangle with links to India, Syria, Lebanon, Morocco, Colombia, England and Holland.

There have been up to the present 80 arrests. Sixty-five of them have led to imprisonment. Some 50 people have been sentenced. One has received an 8-year prison sentence, another 7 years, a third 6 years, a fourth 5 years, and others, imprisonment for varying years. Only one has been released.

The gang dealt in considerably larger quantities of narcotics than could be proven, and it is not exactly crumbs: 7 kilograms of heroin, between 200 and 300 kilograms of marijuana and cannabis and 2 kilograms cocaine, with a so-called black market value of more than 40 million kroner.

The chief of the Huddinge criminal police, Commissioner Gunnar Hellgren says.

"It actually began with our getting telephone calls from concerned parents in the Flemingsberg housing area. School children were buying narcotics with their allowances."

The interrogation of the young Syrian began on 25 August 1980. He denies any crime. The investigators found in his apartment a passport issued to a Swede. The photograph was torn out. The police was successful in finding the Swede at an address in Skane. He admits to knowing the pusher, and the suspicion of the police that the pusher had been selling hashish to young people in school was strengthened.

The pusher began to make admissions, and it was soon apparent that he was working together with a number of his countrymen in the southern suburbs. Arrests occurred one after the other. By the middle of September some 20 people had been arrested. The trail leads further to two Lebanese brothers, and in the middle of October the police strike. One hundred thousand kroner in cash were found in the brothers apartment in Huddinge.

The brothers had previously gone into a bank in Holland. They opened a bag containing 600,000 kroner. The bank assisted them in putting the money in a Swedish account. The money was used later to purchase trucks and motors which were shipped to Lebanon and sold there at a large profit.

Huge Cargo

In connection with this raid three others were arrested in absentia. They are wanted internationally, suspected of trying to smuggle 4 tons of marijuana into the United States. The men are also said to have had plans to smuggle large cargos of narcotics from Colombia to Europe in specially-equipped vessels.

Around 10 October the police found a hiding place for narcotics in a cellar in Trangsund outside Stockholm. Large wooden boxes which had been shipped in containers on a ship from Colombia to the free port were empty. Two hundred kilograms of marijuana were on the narcotics market.

Only DAGENS NYHETER carried the news on 15 October, and one of the individuals involved who had not yet been apprehended got the shakes when he saw the headlines. A later transcript of the investigation reads:

"O even remembers that on the day when the headlines stated that the police had found the hiding place in Trangsund he was on the way to a cafe near his work together with H. They looked at the headlines, and when they entered the cafe, H read DAGENS NYHETER. H became 'greatly wrought up.' O had to order H's breakfast. O asked H if this was the same grass with which H was involved and got back a nod. H was morose because they had not gotten rid of the boxes.... Later on the same day O went home to H after work.

"He hears H and G then talk about the marijuana. He says that he has to travel to Copenhagen immediately to telephone from there the contact man in Colombia. To the question as to why he had to go to Copenhagen to telephone, H replies that a call must be ordered, and H does not dare do so in Sweden. O then realizes that the call involves stopping further shipment of marijuana."

A Ton of Narcotics

Commissioner Gunnar Hellgran continues:

"The shipment which was stopped after the men became frightened by the headline in DAGENS NYHETER involved a ton of marijuana. The men, who are now serving 7 and 5 year prison terms respectively were also found guilty of this premeditated crime. It was fortunate that this big quantity never came here, worth, by the way, tens of millions of kroner.

On 2 December three Swedes were apprehended at King's Bend in Huddinge. They were going on a ski trip to Italy. All are involved in the marijuana smuggling. The police obtained at the hearing information that the gang was involved with cocaine.

The trail led further to a gang of Englishmen who established themselves in the heroin market. Already 2 years ago one of them came here. He rented a villa in Akers Runo. A Swede became his closest sales contact. With sole rights the Swede sold 5 kilograms of heroin to the Englishman.

At one o'clock at night on 2 June this year the police raided the villa in Akers. Three Englishmen were arrested, and 8 kilograms of hashish were confiscated.

These men made so much money in their dealing that they planned to buy an apartment house in their own country. Their intention was to live off the rent. At the pre-trial hearing--the legal proceedings have just begun--the police begin to suspect two Englishmen in their home country.

One of them is out on bail of 200,000 kroner in anticipation of the extradition action in January next year. One of the Swedish investigators believes he has evidence that the men smuggled large quantities of heroin from Holland in specially constructed bags.

During the whole investigation the police and prosecutor commuted between Huddinge and Visby. The first contingent was placed in the prison in Visby because of space considerations. For practical reasons of investigation, more and more have been added so that the Huddinge police 'reserved' almost all the cells in the Visby prison in the course of a year.

One of the Englishmen already arrested purchased in November 1980 half a kilogram of heroin in Amsterdam. He put the narcotics in a rubber tube in a so-called tube-less tire on his motorcycle. Then he drove the long way to Jonkoping.

When he was going to take out the contents of the uninflated inner tube, he found to his grief that the rubber, plastic and heroin were in one jumble. He called his countrymen in Akers Runo. They traveled to Jonkoping to determine that the man was not lying. Again back to the villa in Akers Runo. They cooked the whole mess, filtered it, and produced a heroin product which was purer than the original.

Secret Letter

Just as the investigation concerning one of these Englishmen was almost complete, the personnel in the Visby prison found a letter. The police suspected that the people put there have had mail contacts. A 'house search' was conducted in the prison, and the internal mailbox was found--the front shaft of a test bicycle in the exercise room.

Fifteen letters were found, and from them it was apparent that some of the imprisoned individuals have also smuggled hashish oil from Morocco to England, that they were trying to recruit Swedes as hashish pushers since the market for hashish products is so good in Sweden. The letters also showed they communicated in code, and it was decided that the first individual who served his time was again about to take up his narcotics dealing.

He would contact the next one to be released and so on.

One of the men, in addition, traveled to Holland and purchased there 16 kilograms of cannabis for 15,000 kroner per kilogram, cash.

Pop Stars

On the periphery of this tangle there are stories as to how an internationally known pop star purchased marijuana from the gang. Other disclosures led to a known singer and a prominent Swedish politician being punished. Both purchased narcotics for their own use.

The surveillance men who knocked on the door of the young pusher in Flemingsberg on that Sunday afternoon in August last year have today piled up, in the hearing rooms of the Visby prison and the police station in Fittja, folders with thousands of pages of inquiry reports.

"And that is not the end," says one of the investigators. "If we can only get here the two Englishmen whom we have requested be extradited, a number of new deprivations of freedom can develop on the home front. There are many highly interesting pieces left in this investigation."

6893
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SWEDEN

THIRTEEN INDIANS ACCUSED OF SMUGGLING HASHISH

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 4 Dec 81, p 10

[Text] Thirteen Indian citizens, all men between 35-40 years of age, were indicted on Thursday in the district court in Sollentuna for the felonious smuggling of goods and for felonious narcotics crimes. The district prosecutor, Lennart Nilsson, maintained that the men had possession of a total of 40 kilograms of hashish which was smuggled in suitcases from India to Arlanda.

In connection with the so-called people smuggling from India to Western Europe, the customs administration sharpened its surveillance at Arlanda. Practically all passengers on the Polish airways "Polski Lots" plane from New Delhi were checked very carefully, and the first confiscation of narcotics was made on 21 September. Then six men arrived with a large quantity of hashish and a week later four more men and a man who had registered at a youth hostel in Stockholm were apprehended.

One of the leading figures, who was arrested in absentia, came to Sweden on 29 October. He was apprehended 5 days later in Uppsala. He is accused of having made at least four smuggling trips from India.

On 22 November a 60-year-old man came to the police and reported the loss of his hand baggage. He had come by air to Arlanda the same day. The police learned that the man was going to visit the top leader and was therefore suspect. The next day the lost baggage was found.

The suitcases had been sent with the wrong plane. Fifteen kilograms hashish was found in one of them. Like the others, the 60-year-old man is under arrest. He denies any crime and says he was going to hand over the suitcase to his fellow countryman in Uppsala.

The trial began on Monday in the district court in Sollentuna.

6893

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SWEDEN

METHADONE TEST LIKELY TO CONTINUE ANOTHER THREE YEARS

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 11 Dec 81 p 8

[Article by Lotta Schullerqvist]

[Text] The methadone treatment of drug addicts should continue 3 more years as a trial project, according to a proposal of the medical delegation. This involves a reduction in comparison with the proposal of the national social welfare board for a 5-year trial period.

On Thursday the government decided to hand over the controversial question regarding the future of the methadone treatment to the medical care delegation of the department of social affairs for further consideration. The delegation, which in its preparatory study advocated that the treatment should continue at a reduced level, will continue its work after the new year. Until further notice there will be a halt in taking more people into the methadone program.

A Tightening Up

The controversial treatment with methadone (a morphine substitute which is given to addicts) was started at the end of the sixties at Ullerakers hospital. A group of experts has, on behalf of the national social welfare board, carried out the treatment, which has been criticized strongly from many sides and decided that it should continue on a limited degree, for 150 to 200 patients at the most. The treatment should also be changed from a trial basis to a regular medical specialty, centralized at the Ullerakers hospital. The group proposed that the treatment should be evaluated after 5 years.

The question was then forwarded to the government and was first studied by the medical care delegation which also took the position that treatment should be allowed to continue. But there was to be a slight tightening-up; treatment would encompass at the most 150 patients, and it should be evaluated after 3 years. Treatment should be offered in a restrictive manner, and the national social welfare board should watch the operation and see that an evaluation of the program is ready within the 3 year period, and not be made afterwards.

The minister of social affairs, Karen Soder, who in general supports the delegation's preliminary proposal, states that the government should take a position in regard to methadone treatment.

Evaluation

"It is a question of resources, and the medical service board has the responsibility for such matters. We are not in the habit of considering methods of treatment or individual medicines in the government.

"Personally, I think that it is important that a careful evaluation be made. Three years is a suitably long time for obtaining a picture as to how rehabilitation is going, if addicts are being successfully freed from both addiction and methadone can live a normal life," Karin Soder says.

6893

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SWEDEN

BRIEFS

PRISON DRUG RAID--Stockholm, 8 Dec--Amphetamines, syringes and injection needles were confiscated in the third raid in a short time at the prison in Harnosand. Four young people have been arrested. They have admitted that they brought in narcotics to an acquaintance in the institution. On 11 November a bigger confiscation was made than the latest. At that time, 39 bags for amphetamines were found in a cell.
[Text] [Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 8 Dec 81 p 7] 6893

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UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

RECORD HEROIN HAUL--London, 6 Jan (AFP)--British customs officials backed up by police, seized a record 87 kilos (over 190 lbs) of heroin in 1981--twice the amount for 1980--a customs report revealed today. Approximately 80 percent of the heroin, worth 14 million pounds (28 million dollars), was intended for the British domestic market. The total value of soft and hard drugs seized last year was close to 53 million pounds (over 100 million dollars). A total of 1,359 people were arrested for drug smuggling. But the report said seizures of cocaine fell by 62 percent compared to 1980. Customs officials explained the drop by a change in taste among Britain's drug users. [Text] [NC061427 Paris AFP in English 1232 GMT 6 Jan 82]

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